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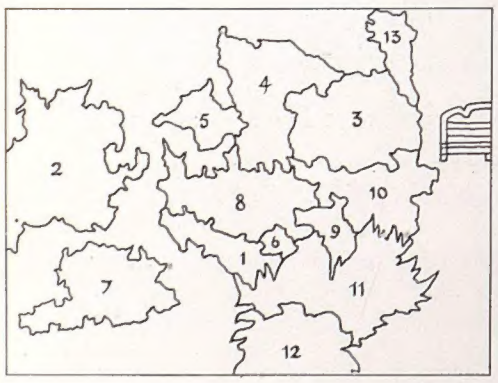
Visit Sissinghurst with Shell

photographed in June by Fay



Sissinghurst Castle, Kent

The dramatic fragments of Sissinghurst Castle date back to the years of Henry VIII, and one might well the garden, with its great yew hedges, did so, too. But in 1930 it was a wilderness and rubbish dump with worthwhile plant. Now, a Sleeping Beauty transformed by the late Victoria Sackville-West and her husb Sir Harold Nicolson, the garden combines long axial walks with small enclosures, like the intimate garde the Elizabethan age, each at its best at a different season.

Within the formality of wall, hedge and pleached trees, plants grow in romantic abandon, like the roses here. Simplest in form, *Rosa chinensis mutabilis* (1) earns its last name by its chameleon colour changes—i in bud, changing to yellow, pink and copper. One of the loveliest of last-century roses is the Bourbon, Mad Lauriol de Barny (2), in striking contrast to the more modern Zigeuner Knabe, Gipsy Boy (3), bred from same group. William Lobb (4) is a moss rose, so called because of the thick, moss-like growth around the b Another moss, one of the most velvety-seeming, is Capitaine John Ingram (5). Miss Sackville-West res many old roses from oblivion, some whose names she could not trace, and the full double pink rose (6) is such. It is striking how well some modern roses fit in with these antiques: August Seebauer (7), Pinocchi and Yellow Pinocchio (9) are all floribundas of post-war vintage. The great globular heads of the onion *A albopilosum* (10), each composed of scores of six-pointed stars, complete the planting, together with an iris and the blue-green Plantain Lily, *Hosta sieboldiana elegans* (12). On the wall behind, the well-loved *Cle* Nellie Moser (13) spreads its great platters of flower.

Sissinghurst Castle is just east of Sissinghurst village, on A 262, and 2½ miles east of Cranbrook. The ga is open daily between 1 April and 31 October, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

This garden will be illustrated in the Shell Gardens Book to be published in 1964.

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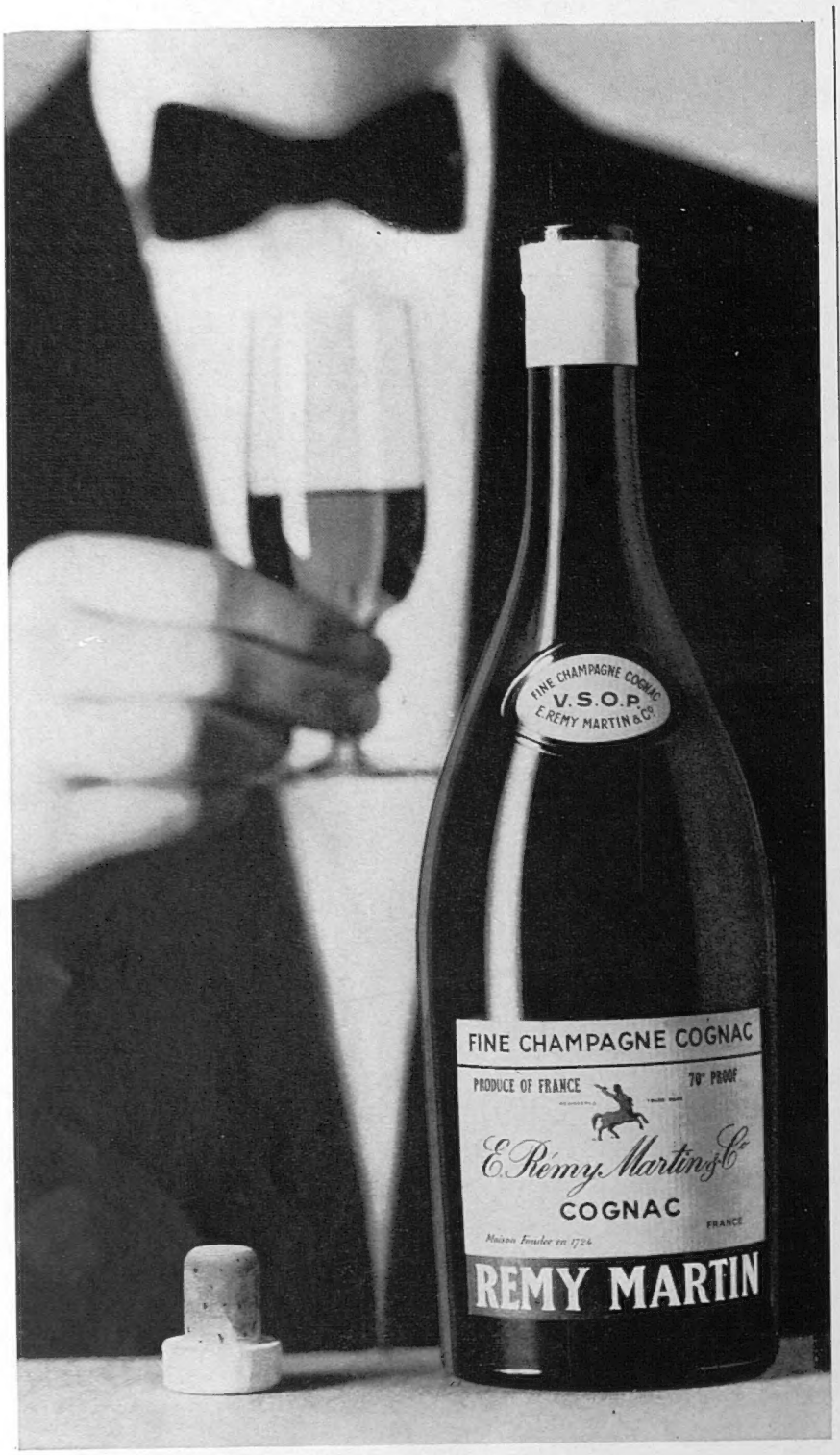

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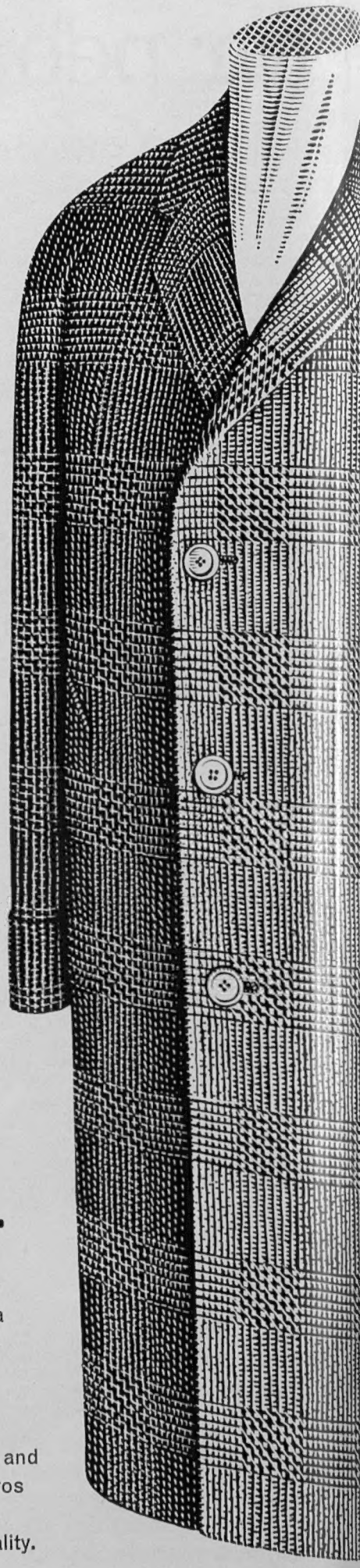

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Volume CCLV No. 3307 LONDON, October 19, 1963

THE SPHERE

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Above: On the platform at the Tory conference in Blackpool are, from right: Lord Hailsham, Mr Maudling, Mr Brooke, Mr Thorneycroft, Mr Hare, Mr Heath, Mr Marples and Mr Soames. **Top:** Mr Butler and Lord Home. This week the search for Mr Macmillan's successor had moved from Blackpool to London. On Monday bookmakers had Mr Butler as favourite with Lord Hailsham second. Lord Home had still to show whether he would renounce his title. Mr Maudling was back in the betting. Two other fancies were Mr Macleod and Mr Heath. See also overleaf

CONTENDERS FOR THE SUCCESSION

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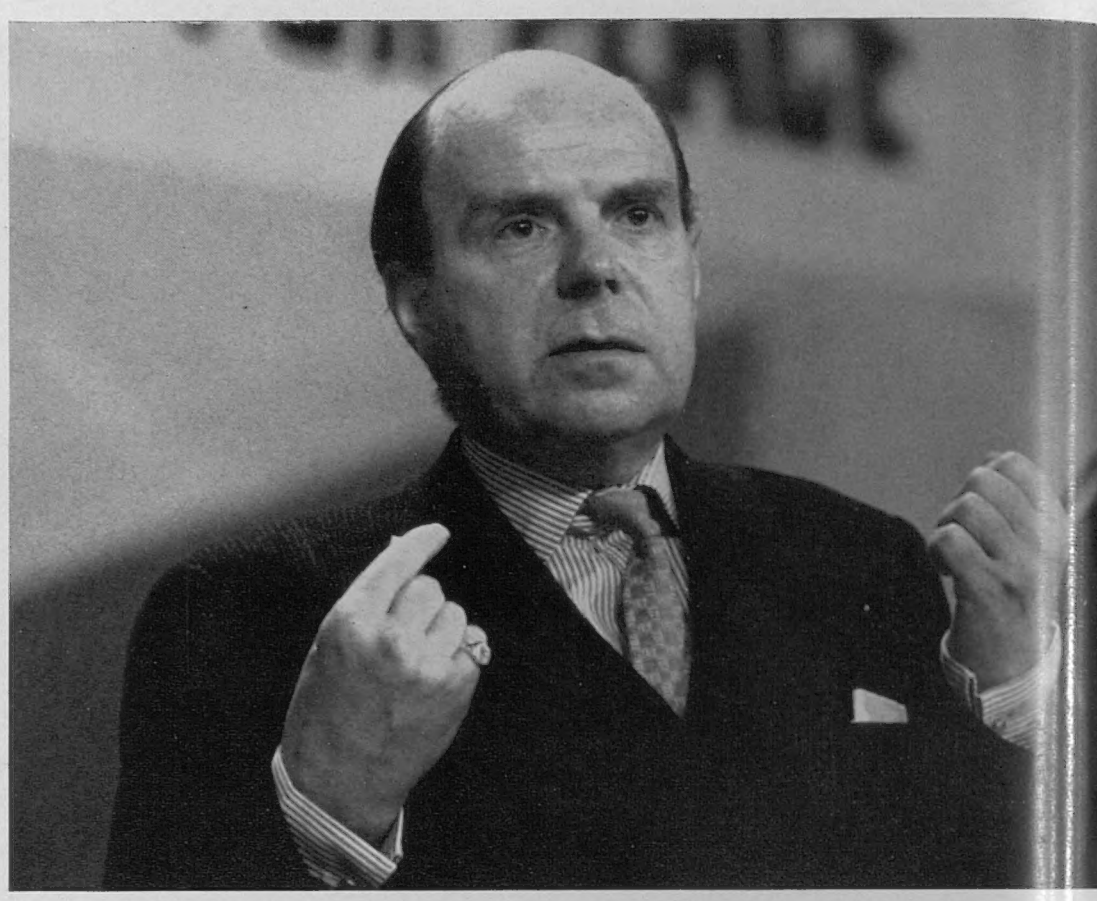
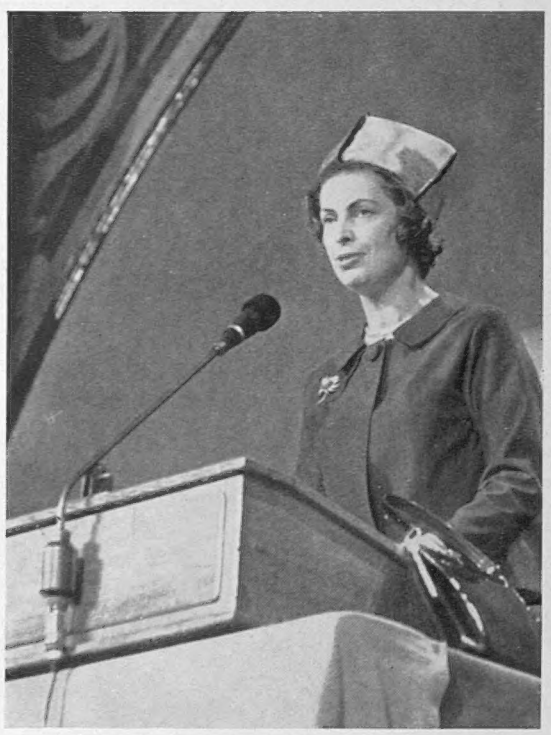
A WEEK OF HIGH DRAMA





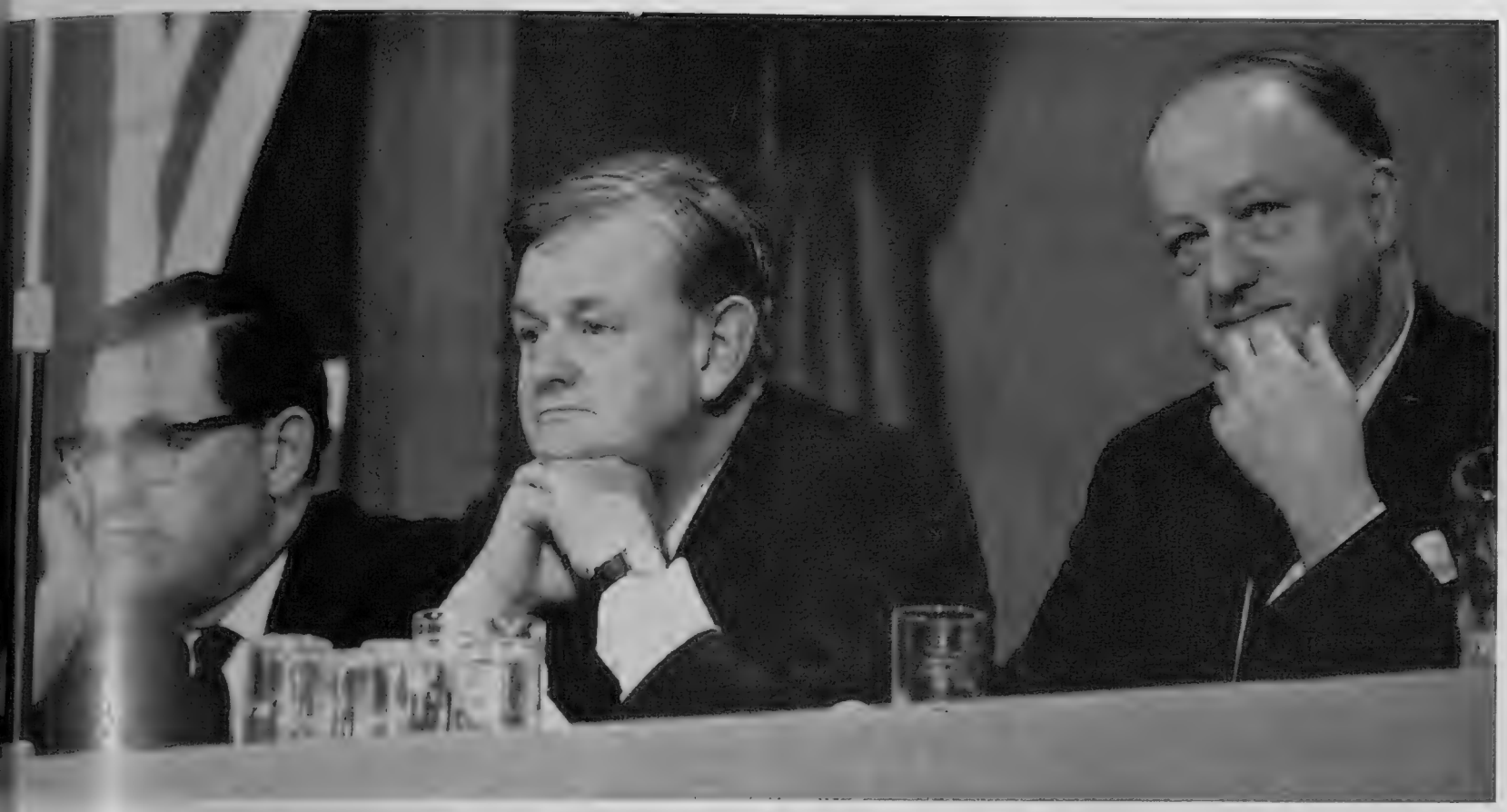
High drama was anticipated at the Conservative conference at Blackpool last week, but not in the form it eventually took. As delegates assembled the talk was almost exclusively about the leadership of the party. They believed that they might learn about the Prime Minister's intention to stay or go when he spoke at the post-conference rally on Saturday afternoon. Indeed Mr Macleod, Conservative Joint-Chairman, said on Tuesday evening this was certainly going to happen. Within a few hours came the first bombshell. Mr Macmillan had gone into hospital for a prostate operation. Mr Butler was in charge of the Government (as he was when the previous Premier was ill). At the opening session a call to victory at the next election was read in a message from Mr Macmillan. This did little to allay speculation about the future. On Thursday came bombshell number two; the Prime Minister was going to resign as soon as the party could decide on a successor. He hoped the customary processes of consultation would be carried on within the party about its future leadership. But no one seemed quite clear what these processes were and who they would eventually disgorge to become the Prime Minister and the leader of the Conservative party.

Top left: Lady Dorothy Macmillan leaves the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers in London after visiting her husband. Earlier in the day he had had an operation for removal of the prostate gland. His condition was said to be excellent

Top right: Mr Ian Macleod, Joint-Chairman of the Conservative Party and Leader of the House, makes a fighting speech at the Conservative Party conference. His theme was service. He said: "V new mandate so we m

Above: Lord Po other Joint-Chairma Conservative Party, Poole chat with M Heath, the Lord P

Above left: Mrs T. C herd, this year's Chair Conference, reads a from Mr Macmillan ing another Conser tory at the next genera



Above: Sir Edward Boyle, the Minister of Education, emphasises a point as he outlines his party's education policy. He stated the Government was planning school building programmes for five-year periods

Above left: Sir Keith Joseph, Minister of Housing and Mr Enoch Powell, Minister of Health, listen to speeches during the opening session. Both later reported on their departments

Left: Mrs Jill Knight, who is prospective candidate for Northampton, welcomes the Government's long-term plans for hospital and health services

Far left: Mrs Thatcher, M.P. for Finchley and Joint-Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Pensions

Above: The second message from Mr Macmillan: Lord Home, the Foreign Secretary, reads the Prime Minister's letter announcing his intention of retiring from office and from the leadership of the party. He wrote that he felt he could not carry the physical burden of leading the party at the next general election

Top: Three favoured runners in the Prime Ministerial stakes—Mr Reginald Maudling, Lord Hailsham and Mr R. A. Butler, in meditative mood on the platform at Blackpool. Mr Butler was named by Mr Macmillan to be in charge of the Government during his illness. A few hours after the news of Mr Macmillan's retirement, Lord Hailsham strengthened his claim by renouncing his peerage in a much-applauded public speech

CATASTROPHES

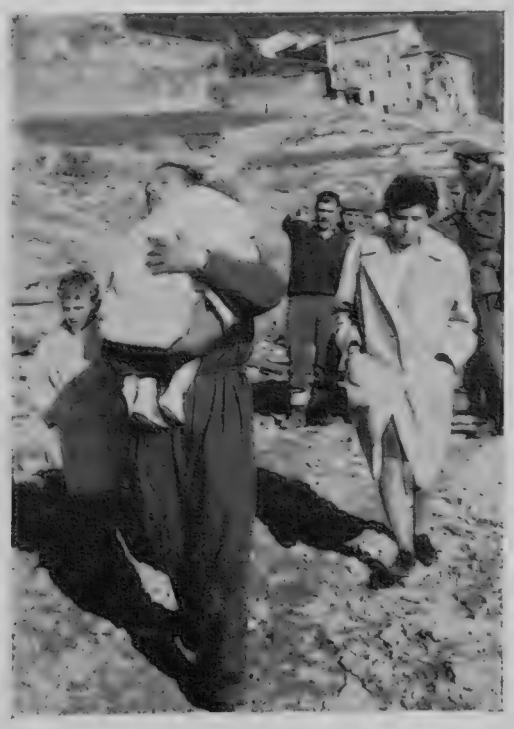
86 Disasters in two continents took toll of a probable 8,000 people last week. In the Caribbean, Hurricane Flora struck Haiti and Cuba with a venom unparalleled in that area. World health officials in Haiti reported more than 5,000 had been killed there. After touring the eastern provinces in Cuba, flooded on an unprecedented scale, Dr Castro put the figure for the dead at 1,000.

The other scene of desolation was the Piave valley in north Italy. Here catastrophe came in the middle of the night. (During daytime many people would have been away at work in nearby towns.) Water was hurled over a wall of the Vaiont dam by a mountain-side collapsing and raged down upon half-a-dozen villages. By last Monday about 1,500 bodies had been recovered. It was forecast the final death roll would be 2,000. Sixty hours after the disaster two children were found very exhausted but alive in a cellar.

Above: In the wake of Hurricane Flora, at Anse-à-Veau in Haiti, houses have been smashed and the street is flooded. The hurricane last week was the worst ever to strike the Caribbean. Preliminary figures gave the death roll as 6,000 for Haiti and Cuba. In the latter island it was feared a year's agricultural production had been lost

Above right: In north Italy troops search for bodies in the Piave valley after several villages had been wiped out by water raging down from the Vaiont dam. A whole mountainside, loosened by heavy rains, had fallen into the artificial lake and gigantic waves had been thrown over the wall of the dam. It was estimated 2,000 people were killed

Right: The Piave river is being dragged by Italian soldiers. Many bodies were found in the water



Above: In the valley of desolation; the cleft in the hills in centre background is where the wall of the dam is situated. The rubble-strewn area was the village of Langarone. Only a few living on high ground escaped death

Far left: United States Army helicopters are used in the rescue work. They came from Nato bases and assisted in the reconnaissance work

Left: A child having been rescued is carried from the valley

JOHN CONNELL

EAST–WEST THAW

88 October 10, 1963 may be a day deserving more than a marginal note in the history books of the future. It was on that day that the nuclear test ban treaty, having been rapidly ratified by the three primary signatories, the US, the USSR and Her Britannic Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, took formal effect. Castro's Cuba, just a year after the eruption of the crisis that brought us all to the edge of nuclear war, said grumblingly that she would defer adherence to the treaty until the United States changed its policy towards her; due note, stiff with disapproval, was taken of this announcement by the Kremlin.

It is interesting to reflect on the remarkable changes there have been in the 12 months since that Sunday night of awe-inspiring decision. It does seem to me that history has been in an especially ironic mood lately. The increasing sense of *accord* between America and Russia, with Lord Home radiating optimism, is the principal manifestation of this mood. Nobody, however, can now describe it as freakish. As *The Times* argued, in a thoughtful and constructive leader, the three Foreign Ministers, when they met in New York at the beginning of the month, were confronted with changes in the world " so vast and deep that they can hardly be grasped."

These changes cannot be divided up into separate compartments; they are interfused inextricably: Russia's split with China; Britain's elimination as a great power; the French claim to leadership in Western Europe; the United States' grave and increasing difficulties in South East Asia and Latin America; the Soviet Union's deep weaknesses behind that imposing facade of strength and soaring aspiration; China's classic combination of internal stresses with external aggressiveness; the fading glamour of the pan-Arab dream; and the brooding nastiness of racial conflict in Africa and within the borders of the US.

Now, despite the complexity of all these issues, there has persisted both at the U.N. and in Washington an atmosphere of hope and confidence. Lord Home, who has worked for many months to bring it about, was perfectly justified in giving us a message of cheer and goodwill.

Did I dream it, or did I read somewhere that " the developing East-West détente is acquiring momentum "? Muddled though its phrasing may be, this is a curiously accurate and satisfactory description of what is happening at present. What are the causes of this encouraging state of affairs? On the Western side there is no need to probe far. Whatever follies we may have tumbled into, whatever faults we may have committed, the Western alliance, in good times and in bad, ever since 1945, has consistently desired and pursued peace; every initiative towards an easing of tension has been Western; the Russians have only had to respond to that initiative. Now at last, it seems, the leaders of the Soviet Union have perceived that the tactics of unremitting hostility do not pay, though they still cling to Communism's ultimate strategic objective. Mr Khrushchev and his advisers have not undergone any fundamental change of heart; they have had to face the consequences of their own obstinacy.

Signing the receipts for the instruments of ratification of the test ban treaty at the Foreign Office, left to right, Mr David Bruce, the US Ambassador; Lord Home, the Foreign Secretary; Mr Romanov, Soviet Chargé d'Affaires

But the survival of Russia, as a great and growing world power, is more important to the Kremlin than the grim practical demonstration of the Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist theory of the inevitability of war. Tortuous and slow though it may be, the road to the settlement of disputes by peaceful negotiation is now the one that Mr Khrushchev has chosen. His choice has precipitated the breach with the Chinese—or rather it has widened it and made it spectacularly public. But the stubborn fact remains that, despite the continual barrage of mutual insults and accusations, both the Chinese and the Russians frequently proclaim their passionate longing to re-establish comradely unity. Theirs may have been a marriage of convenience, but within the framework of Communist ideology it had acquired its own reality and relevance.

Worries in the Soviet Union

Nevertheless the Russians are worried. Harvest failures show up, rather luridly, certain radical weaknesses in their economy—though I must confess it seems to me tiresomely smug of anyone, living and writing here in a country which has existed on imported food for a 100 years, to be scornful about Russian purchases of wheat from overseas. Economic weakness is paralleled by a growing recognition of certain deficiences in the Soviet military structure. But again, the discovery that Russian land forces in Eastern Europe are neither so numerous nor so formidable as, for the past ten years or so, we have all been led to believe, should not lull us into being complacent about Nato's weakness, nor about gaps in BAOR strength.

The Americans rightly think of Lord Home as tough-minded, and respect him for it. When therefore a newspaper as cautious and as conservative as *The New York Times* quotes with approval and agreement Lord Home's observation that he hopes that we may be at the beginning of the end of the cold war, it indicates that they don't dismiss his brand of optimism as mere wishful thinking. It is perfectly true that a US Presidential election is only slightly less imminent than a British general election, and that in both countries the parties in power have their eyes fixed firmly on the polls. A British diplomatic correspondent was reminded by a Washington official that " peace is a good issue "; that the test ban treaty was " part of the peace pie."

To judge by the Conservative Central Office's shrewdly timed publicity campaign, Lord Poole and others on that side of Smith Square regard peace as a pretty important contribution to the electoral recipe.

Now that so much has been achieved, ought not both the United States and Britain to exploit every opportunity of following up the test ban treaty and the agreement on the " hot line "? Incidentally, think of the hullabaloo that the American—and Canadian—wheat sales to Russia would have raised not so long ago. The joint US/USSR moon rocket attempt seems to me one of the more off-beat projects that has yet been devised, I must admit; but if our societies are affluent enough to afford this kind of caper, why not spend money on it rather than on costly rockets to blow us all to smithereens!

Ever since the end of World War II the fulcrum of the politico-diplomatic conflict has lain in Germany and Berlin. I have found myself wondering repeatedly in recent weeks whether, in fact, the German problem really matters so much now. The Germans make, and will go on making, the most tremendous fuss about it. But against the larger background of global and extra-terrestrial developments, need we go on attaching such importance to the number of soldiers in the non-German garrison of that chilly, vulgar city. The wall is an ugly symbol of man's stupidity and of man's inhumanity to man, but need we perpetuate the actual and destructive force of our unpleasant symbolism? The sinister magic of the wall exists only because men—stubborn, wicked and foolish men—created it. That these qualities are suddenly to be wiped off the earthly scene by some political act I do not for one moment believe; we are all seeing them busily at work in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Cannot we put them on half-pay for a century or so in Europe, where they have for so long and so horribly made the running?

THE NEWS IN PICTURES

←«Farewell visit to Berlin

Dr Adenauer speaks at the Tempelhof airport. With him is Herr Brandt, the Lord Mayor of Berlin. Dr Adenauer was due to retire on October 16 from the West German Chancellorship after holding the office for 14 years. His successor is Professor Ludwig Erhard

↑ Algerian rebels challenge Ben Bella

Leaders of the Berber rebels address their supporters at Azazga in the Kabylie mountains. Last week Mr Ben Bella, the Algerian Premier, cancelled his visit to the U.N. in New York. Speaking in Algiers, he angrily threatened the rebels with a showdown

↑ Sir Roy Welensky in London

The Rhodesian Federal Prime Minister arrives on an unofficial visit. He was on his way back to Salisbury, the Federal capital, from the United States. He said he had no desire to continue in politics and was planning to retire to a farm and write a book about his public life

←«US Congressional probe in Vietnam

With his head bandaged, an American newscaster, beaten by plain clothes Saigon police, after the last Buddhist suicide by fire, talks with Clement Zablocki (left), the Chairman of the US Congress's Far East sub-committee. Between them is the United States Ambassador, Henry Cabot Lodge

NEWS SUMMARY

Prospects for a Communist "Summit"; "misunderstandings" on the road to Berlin

90 **INTERNATIONAL**

The perennial proposal that Communist China should be admitted to the United Nations was to be put to the Assembly in New York early this week. Albania is sponsoring China's admission this year. Previously Russia has been the sponsor. A two-thirds majority of the Assembly must be obtained for admitting a new member. Britain is in favour of China joining but it was anticipated the requisite number of votes would not be obtained to allow China to come in.

A "Summit" of the major Communist parties of the world is forecast for next month in Moscow. It will deal with the position of China in the world Communist movement and the rift between Russia and China. Pekin is not expected to be represented at the talks.

Fears of a new Berlin crisis and a consequent setback in East-West negotiations appeared to have been dissipated by last Monday. Three days previously an American army convoy of 61 men and 18 vehicles had been held up by Russian armoured cars on the autobahn outside Berlin. The Russians demanded that the Americans got out of their vehicles so that they could be counted. This the Americans refused to do, saying it was against agreed procedures for transit on the East German section of the autobahn. After 33 hours the Russians drove away. In Washington it was thought the incident arose because of misunderstandings by local Russian commanders. Another explanation was that Mr Khrushchev wanted gently to remind he still controls access to Berlin.

The Queen is greeted on her return to London from Balmoral. She is expecting a child in the New Year

GREAT BRITAIN

A bulletin issued on Sunday night from King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers on Mr Macmillan reported that he was comfortable. It was anticipated a further bulletin would not be needed for several days. He would be in hospital for another ten days at least.

The Robbins report on Higher Education is expected early next week.

UNITED STATES

Soviet foreign trade officials, headed by Mr Sergei Borisov, first deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, were to fly to New York last Tuesday to discuss purchases of wheat from the United States. This move followed President Kennedy's decision to remove the ban on shipments of American grain to Russia. He authorised the sale of surplus wheat to the Soviet Union and East European Communist countries.

WEST GERMANY

Dr Adenauer was in fighting form during his last days as Federal Chancellor, the office he relinquished this week. Last Sunday he spoke at a demonstration in Cologne entitled "Germany thanks Adenauer." It was the official farewell to him as Chancellor by the Christian Democrat Party, of which he remains leader. The Old Man denounced talk of East-West relaxation. "I can hardly stand any more of this word 'relaxation'," he proclaimed. Regarding American wheat shipments to Russia, he declared that anyone who believed one should help the Russians immediately they get into difficulties ran the risk of producing continued tension and war. He maintained that the incident between American and Russian soldiers on the autobahn supported his argument. (For the incident see above under heading International.) It was noticeable that the retiring Chancellor made no reference at all to his successor, Professor Erhard, who was sitting on the platform.

ALGERIA

The Berber revolt was "virtually over," President Ben Bella was able to claim at the end of last week. Government tanks and artillery occupied rebel towns in Kabylie, including Michelet, the rebel HQ, but the only shots exchanged were from light automatic weapons. The rebel leaders, Mr Ait Ahmed and the former Colonel Mouhand Ou el-Hadj had fled into the Kabylie mountains and the army was under orders to arrest them. It was thought this might take some time as most of the village communities in the mountains are loyal to the Berber cause.

On the Morocco-Algeria border, the oasis outposts of Hassi Beida, Hassi Mounir and Injoub were stormed by heavily armed Algerian troops on Tuesday last week. This was the last and most serious of a series of incidents along the border caused by Algeria's refusal to negotiate a settlement of Moroccan territorial claims. Envoys of King Hassan II of Morocco who saw Mr Ben Bella last week, left without resolving anything. Moroccan officials in Rabat announced military measures to recover territory extending as far into the heart of the Sahara as Regaine, 360 miles beyond Hassi Beida

KENYA

The Kenya Independence Conference was expected to end early this week with a compromise solution by Mr Duncan Sandys, Secretary of State for the Commonwealth and Colonies. What the Minister has had to resolve is the revision requested by the Kenya Government of a Constitution that the British Government was committed to uphold but which has now proved to be unworkable, and the demands of the Kenya opposition party, Kadu, that the constitution be retained as it is to secure for the outlying regions a high degree of autonomy. In the middle of last week Kadu leaders declared that if their demands were not met they would set up a separatist state of their own in Kenya, free from Kanu control. Last weekend it was reported Kadu "postponed" implementing their separatist plan.

In the issue of August 10 in the article "Paid To Go To School" it should have been stated that the major part of the capital costs of the new school at Dubai is being financed by the Ruler. The statement that the running costs will be paid by Britain alone was incorrect. These costs will be shared equally between Britain and the Ruler of Dubai.

Mr Karamanlis, former Greek Premier, inaugurates his campaign for the elections due in November by speaking from a balcony in Salonika

BALCONY SCENE

A LONDON NEWSLETTER

13-15 John Adam Street, London, WC2

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Out to win

The entirely unexpected news of Mr Macmillan's operation and his retirement from the Premiership stunned the Conservatives gathering for their conference in Blackpool. There had been great hopes that the Prime Minister's appearance at the Saturday rally would be a rousing climax to a week in which the counter attack to Labour had been energetically launched. Before the Tory conference began it was clear that the impression left by the Labour conference at Scarborough was deep and formidable. Splits had been cemented over, differences deferred. That party has certainly joined issue, with confidence, to win the 1964 election. There is to be no complacency until the *next* election in '69 (or earlier) is also ' in the bag.' The Labour party has learned how to wait and has learned a lesson from the Whigs' 23 years' sojourn in the wilderness which ended in 1832. A party wandering in the wilderness never reaches the longed-for oasis by internal bickerings, so the Tories had to take a leaf out of Scarborough's book and banish both complacency and differences. They will not start favourites for the 1964 stakes, and if the Socialists succeed in spreading the load of their promised revolution over the years ahead without exciting the impatience of their hot-heads, the Tories may not shorten their own odds in 1969. For the Tories, the time is short indeed. So much to do, so little done, and only a matter of months before the first engagement. No purpose can be served by stressing what they have done in recent years—to deaf ears. Rather they must attack and constructively challenge, item by item, the massive revolution which the Socialists promise for their years of power. A task made all the harder by Mr Macmillan's withdrawal from the scene.

King Harold Goodheart

Although Mr Wilson, in one short shining hour, opened the business with a glowing picture (heartily applauded) of the scientific and educational revolution to begin next year when Labour rules, naturally enough at this exciting time he did not think *all* his thoughts aloud at the Scarborough conference; but " at a Fabian tea-party " he leaked his ideas about creating a number of new Ministries, as many perhaps as five, and some of Cabinet rank. There are an awful lot of Ministries already, for they tend to proliferate with every new administration, and certainly Mr Grimond with his seeded office-holders (as known to us at present) would find it difficult to fill half of the existing offices. No such anxieties disturb the Socialists. Mr Wilson needs important portfolios, best suited to their abilities and preferences, to keep his rivals for power contented and quiet, and he has at his disposal a more than adequate roll of aspirants for all existing and proposed portfolios not earmarked for his top men, drawn entirely from sitting members. A few experts might be needed from the world of science, economics, higher education and overseas development, to put some teeth and ginger into some of the hitherto " Cinderella " Ministries; but civil servants need not fear the abrogation of Parkinson's law nor tremble at

the thought of domination by alien dictators. Even the Treasury, shorn of some of its present responsibilities, would be left with plenty of useful work to do. King Harold Goodheart's song (all the sweeter for being unsung) should be balm to all his party who aspire to office and have confidence in themselves:

" For every one who feels inclined,
Some post I undertake to find
Congenial to his frame of mind;
And all shall equal be."

Of course, it will cost money, but (as he said) " Labour will find it."

Floreat, Florebit

A Scarborough surprise (to me, at least) was the overwhelming rejection of a proposal entirely to abolish the " private sector " in education. I thought it would prove a much nearer run thing. It seems to show that the advantages still enjoyed by the public schools over the state schools in teaching talent is shrewdly appreciated by Socialists and must be used much more widely, and that the old-school-tie element in the Socialist party is larger and more influential than one supposed. Eton and the rest of the public schools are to survive, but they must survive (if they can) without calling on the " parents' purses " at £500 to £600 per annum per place. Places must no longer be bought, but must go to those who need that kind of education. It follows that the alternative to liquidation—integration—must prove a pretty expensive business. Such parents as are blessed with children found suitable for a public school education will be lucky, but will owe their good fortune to the whole body of taxpayers, those with unsuitable children or no children at all. And even those who have no ambition to secure public school education for their children. Or so it seems, if you study the economic facts of Eton today which require, if that school's acknowledged educational assets are to be maintained, that a majority of the parents must dip to the tune of nearly £600 a year for each boy's place. It follows that, when Labour rules or, at any rate, begins to rule, the public schools will be suffered to flourish still, if they can, supported and maintained not by the purses of 800 plutocrats but by the purses of millions of altruistic taxpayers—in short, they will survive as efficient and idealised state schools, with all nasty suggestions of snobbery and plutocracy purged away. Then the label " public school " will cease to be meaningless.

Teaching the young idea

It has been my fate, while entertaining two small grandsons, both under five years old, to turn on for their entertainment the five o'clock TV programme. The inspiration of those who arrange these programmes peters out in half-an-hour. Then it usually happens they fall back on a " western," call in America to teach a way of life to British nurseries. An " idealised " American way of life. The usual galloping horses, the clipped, unintelligible dialogue and thereafter an orgy of bodies slumping from shots in the back or smashing k.o.'s delivered when least expected. The smaller child showed signs of distress at these brutalities, the eldest was uncomfortably enthralled. But when it was over, bricks and the farm animals had no entertainment value. The children began to imitate the westerners and took to bashing everyone and everything at hand, including their grandfather. Perhaps

Far left: Princess Margaret smiling at students at a new Hall of Residence at the Imperial College, London, which she opened with her husband Lord Snowdon
Left: One of the rooms for art and crafts at the new extension of Whitelands College, Putney. The College was established in 1841 by the National Society as one of the first training colleges for women teachers to be founded in this country. The new extension was to be opened by HRH the Duchess of Gloucester last week
Below: Playing at Lo Spiedo Restaurant in London during the Dolomites Festival of Wine and Food is a typical mountain band from the South Tyrol
Bottom: The Bishop of London, Dr Robert Stopford, conducts a ceremony of blessing and dedication in the basement clubhouse of a new block of flats, the second of three to be built in Eversholt Street in London by the St. Pancras Housing Society. The Society is a voluntary organisation that has been engaged in slum clearance and rehousing since 1924

these American westerns are chosen for economy. Perhaps the inspiration of those who run this particular TV feature is so limited as to require outside help. Perhaps, of course, the western is deemed the best available teacher of manliness and the English language in British nurseries. If so, it helps me to understand the fearful increase in juvenile delinquency and crimes of violence, and the slow murder of the English language. It is distressing to have to admit that British authors cannot compete with the American. We must concede the American supremacy in golf and tennis, perhaps. Must we add the pen to the dismal catalogue of our outworn talents?

A little too tolerant

The Bench of Bishops is not unanimous about our decline in morality. The tolerance of some of them may have encouraged the weaker brethren to follow the downward trend. But the judicial Bench deserves a good word. It is still resolute to fight the decline. And now that I have read the Denning Report from cover to cover, I revise some of my first impressions. A Government cannot make a nation virtuous by Act of Parliament (e.g. it may clean the pavements but not the houses of call), but perhaps a Government (and its police forces as well, taking note of Government example) may be a little too prone to avoid prying into private lives where the detection of indictable crime is not clearly concerned. Gestapo methods are hateful, but it is sometimes better to be safe than to be sorry; and there is a larger loyalty than to the old-school-tie convention when a nation's morality statistics cause anxiety. All the same the cause and the remedy lies in ourselves.

The Old Stager

TUNEFUL FUN

94 The film *Bye Bye Birdie* will have a Royal premiere in London in the presence of the Duchess of Kent at the Odeon Theatre at Marble Arch on November 7. Sportsmen should make a note of the date as the proceeds of the show will go to the British Olympic Appeal. *Bye Bye Birdie* was first created as a play. It opened in Philadelphia in March, 1960 and was seen a month later in New York where it ran on Broadway for 18 months. The producer of the film version, made for the most part in Hollywood, was Fred Kohlmar and George Sidney directed it. The adaptation from the play by Michael Stewart was done by Irving Brecher. Tuneful, funny and gently satirical of the foibles of the younger generation is the story of what happens when the news is broken that Conrad Birdie, a pop singer, is about to be drafted into the United States army. It is doleful tidings for Albert Peterson, a bankrupt song writer who has written the title tune for Conrad's next film. Now there will be no picture, no title tune and no royalties. Albert has enough trouble already with his mother who is determined to break up his romance with his secretary Rosie De Leon. These four and a Birdie fan, Kim McAfee, are those chiefly concerned in the complications which arise as a result of Rosie's schemes to enrich Albert and pry him away from Mama. Maureen Stapleton, who has long been established as a leading dramatic actress, makes her musical comedy debut as Mama.

Right: Conrad Birdie (Jesse Pearson) and Kim McAfee (Ann-Margret) (right)

Below: Kim McAfee and Hugo Peabody (Bobby Rydell) are dancing together in a scene from the film

Above: The musical number entitled "The Telephone Hour"
Far left: Kim McAfee in another of her dancing numbers
Left: Rosie De Leon (Janet Leigh) sits on the knee of Albert Peterson (Dick Van Dyke), a harried song-writer

The items in "The Voice of the Commonwealth" are contributed and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor of "The Sphere"

THE VOICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH

96 **UGANDA**

The President takes office

Uganda became an independent sovereign state on October 9. On the same day the Kabaka of Buganda was sworn-in in Kampala as the first President of the country. Sir William Nadiope, Kyabazinga of Busoga, another hereditary ruler, took the oath as Vice-President. Their term of office is five years. Commenting on the substitution of a President as head of state in place of the Queen, Mr Milton Obote, the Prime Minister, said in the National Assembly that all Commonwealth governments had agreed Uganda should continue to be a member of the Commonwealth. He added "our new constitutional form shall not diminish our affection and respect for Her Majesty the Queen. It is our free decision to acknowledge, accept and cherish Her Majesty the Queen as the head and symbol of unity of the free and independent Commonwealth nations."

KENYA

The Coastal Strip arrangement

With effect from December 12, the date of Kenya's independence, the Sultan of Zanzibar is to relinquish his sovereignty over the Coastal Strip which has been a Protectorate of the Kenya Government since it was leased by the British East African Association at the end of the 19th century. The agreement that the Strip should become a sovereign as well as a territorial part of Kenya was agreed at Marlborough House following discussions that have been taking place during the Kenya Independence Conference.

The Sultan and his Government have renounced all claim to financial compensation for revenue derived from the mainland strip. The Government of Kenya had been paying an annuity of around £16,000 to the Zanzibar Government. Ministers of the Kenya Government have given assurances on the protection of the Sultan's subjects after independence is achieved. They include an undertaking on freedom of worship.

The agreement was signed for the Government of Zanzibar by the Sultan of Zanzibar; for the Kenyan Government by its Prime Minister Mr Jomo Kenyatta and by Mr Duncan Sandys for the British Government.

Top: The agreement on the future of the Kenya Coastal Strip (hitherto a Protectorate), is signed in London at Marlborough House. With Mr Duncan Sandys at the signing ceremony last week are Mr Jomo Kenyatta and the Sultan of Zanzibar

Above: St. Lucia, one of the Windward Islands and a possible member of the East Caribbean Federation The other Windward Islands which might be in the projected association are St. Vincent and Dominica Grenada has opted to join Trinidad and Tobago

THE WEST INDIES

Towards an East Caribbean Federation?

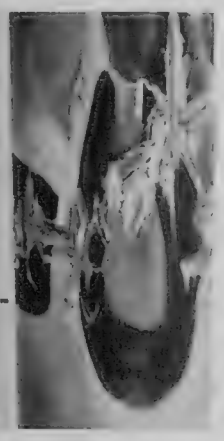
As the latest step towards the formation of an East Caribbean Federation, the Chairman of the Regional Council of Ministers, Sir John Stow, is in London for discussions with the Government. Sir John is Governor of Barbados, the largest island of the seven possible members.

Following upon the dissolution of the short-lived West Indies Federation in 1962 and the decision to grant independence separately to its largest members, Jamaica and Trinidad, a conference of the remaining eight West Indian colonies was held in London in June 1962. At this conference the representatives of Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada all agreed that their islands would benefit politically and economically from federation. Not long afterwards elections in Grenada resulted in a new government for the island which decided to seek association with Trinidad and Tobago. So the eight became the seven, and it was this diminished but more single-minded group that resolved to convene in London in June this year to reach agreement about the final form of the new federation. As things turned out that conference had to be postponed.

During the preparatory talks in Barbados at the end of May between the Chief Ministers of the seven territories (the Regional Council of Ministers) and Mr Nigel Fisher, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, 'significant divergencies of opinion' were revealed. At the final session of the talks however, the Chief Ministers presented Mr Fisher with a statement suggesting a new procedure for establishing the Federation, and outlining the form to be taken by its common services.

Unit governments were to administer the collection of Income Tax, the provision of Postal Services and the local Police Forces for five years, when the position would be reviewed. The Council of Ministers recommended that the Federal Government should administer the departments of Audit, Prisons, Customs and Excise, the Police Training School, the Mobile Police Force, Telecommunications and the Federal Public Service Commissions. They also recommended the establishment of a Federal Judiciary which had been proposed in the report of the Legal Committee of the conference. The Ministers expected that when all the necessary constitutional instruments had been prepared and the Federal Departments and Services organised, a Bill for Independence would be introduced into the House of Commons, probably in June/July 1964. The Federation would however not assume independence until the first elected Federal Ministers take office. This would not be until after Federal Elections in 1965. These proposals differed radically from those previously considered. As time was needed to study them, it was clear that the Constitutional Conference in London would have to be postponed to later in the year.

Now the presence in London of the Chairman of the Regional Council of Ministers can be taken as a further step towards the East Caribbean Federation, but there is some doubt whether the timetable will allow for the Constitutional Conference to take place this year; Mr Duncan Sandys, as Secretary of State for the Commonwealth and the Colonies already has a full programme, and other things may arise to prevent him from taking the chair at the conference.



Left: Leaving Tower Pier for a visit to the London Docks, from left to right, are Lord Simon, Chairman of the Port of London Authority; Mr F. J. Purdue, Lord Mayor of Newcastle; Sir Ralph Perring, Lord Mayor of London; Mr G. Maning, Mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand; Mr H. Howard, Lord Mayor of Perth, Western Australia

Far left: At the Commonwealth Institute, London, Dr Cheddi Jagan, the Prime Minister of British Guiana, with Mr Aubrey Williams, whose abstract paintings won a Prize given by Mr Avray Wilson of British Guiana. The pictures were in the Commonwealth Biennale of Abstract Art

Left: Dr S. Ramgoolam, Chief Minister of Mauritius, with Mr A. H. Begg, a director of Thomson Television (International) Ltd., after signing the contract in Port Louis which will bring television to Mauritius in May next year. The island-wide service will be operated by the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation

Above: Broad Street, the busy main thoroughfare of Bridgetown, the capital on the south west coast of Barbados. The population of the island numbers over 232,000; of Bridgetown about 17,000. People of African descent compose 89 per cent. of the total; of European descent around 4 per cent.

Left: Barbados is the largest of the seven islands that would constitute the East Caribbean Federation. This picture shows the Careenage in Bridgetown, with some of the inter-island schooners in dock

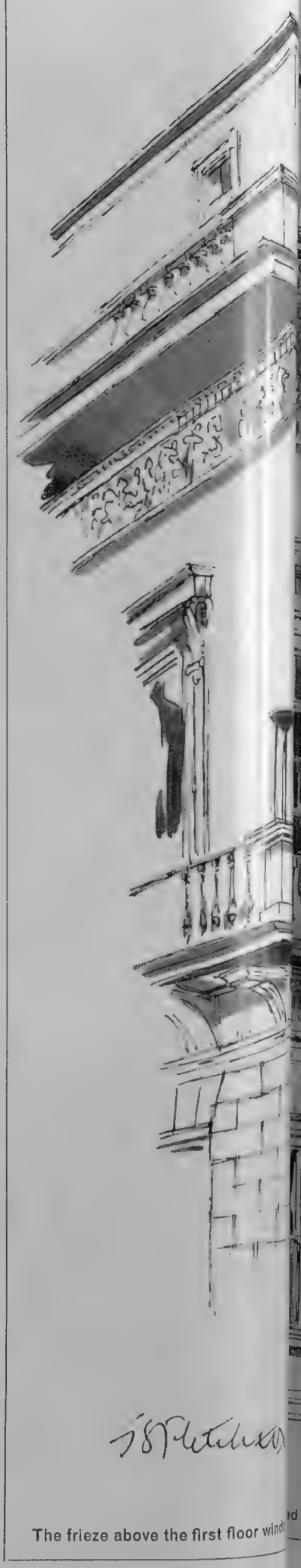
THE ATHENAEUM

Drawings by **GEOFFREY S. FLETCHER**

98 Literature, Science, the Arts and Public Service have always been the basis of the membership of the club since it was founded in 1824, largely on the initiative of John Wilson Croker. In the same year Decimus Burton was appointed architect to design a club-house in Pall Mall. His plans were carefully co-ordinated with those of another great architect, John Nash, who was designing the building for the United Service Club on the other side of what is now Waterloo Place. The Athenaeum was completed in 1830. Apart from the erection of the present parapet enclosing the area and the addition of the attic storey in 1899-1900, the exterior has received only very minor alterations. Its most famous feature is what was termed when its carving was commissioned in 1826 "a compleat Fac simile of the Panathenic procession which formed the Frieze of the Parthenon." A member of the Building Committee had superintended the removal of the Elgin Marbles from Athens to the British Museum in London.

Because of the distinction of its membership the club has always been able to draw on expert advice upon decoration and interior furnishing. Those who have contributed to the dignity of the interior include Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema and Sir Edward Poynter. The Coffee Room was redecorated to the design of Sir Albert Richardson seven years ago.

A corner of one of the rooms in the club



The frieze above the first floor windo

The spacious staircase goes up from the entrance hall

adornment for the exterior